

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Preliminary to a first Office Action after the File Wrapper Continuation in the above-identified patent application, Applicant requests entry of the above amendments to claims 1-14. Claims 1-14 are in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

II. Rejections Based on Prior Art

A. The Office Action Rejections

In paragraphs (1)-(2) of the final Office Action mailed October 7, 1996, claims 1-5 and 9-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over James M. Bloom, "Experience Implementing BIND, A Distributed Name Server for the DARPA Internet," (Bloom) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,187,790 to East. In paragraph (3) of the final Office Action mailed October 7, 1996, claims 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Bloom in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,303,379 to Khoyi.

The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in light of the amendments above and the arguments below.

B. The Applicant's Invention as Recited in Claims 1-14

The Applicant's invention as recited in claims 1-14 comprises a method and system for performing automated resource management. A plurality of servers are grouped into local servers and regional servers. Each of the local servers stores resources, while each of the regional servers stores profiles of resources associated with the local servers. The local and regional servers are linked together so that profiles and resources can be electronically transferred therebetween. The system also includes one or more PCs coupled to the servers. Each of the PCs can store profiles of resources on the regional servers, can search all of the profiles in all of the regional servers, and can access a resource from any of the local servers based on the profiles searched in the regional servers.

C. The Bloom Reference

The Bloom reference discloses a distributive computer system where multiple servers are connected on a domain tree (Figure 2). Larger area servers (Edu, Com) are responsible for the domain of smaller servers (Berkeley, Xerox) that are on the same branch of the domain tree. The larger area servers act as a quick router for requests of servers that are farther down the branches of their domain.

D. The Khoyi Reference

The Khoyi reference discloses a link mechanism for linking data between objects and for performing operations on the linked data in an object-based system. The object-based system includes an extensible set of object types and a corresponding set of object managers, wherein each object manager is a program for operating with the data stored in a corresponding type of object.

E. The East Reference

The East reference discloses a system for determining the rights of object access for a server process that combines them with the rights of client process. A server process temporarily impersonates the characteristics of a client process when the client process performs a remote procedure call on the server process. Each process has an identifier list with a plurality of identifiers that characterize the process. The server process generates a new identifier list which is either the same as the client process' list or is the union of the server's and the client's lists. Each object in the system can have an access control list which defines the identifiers that a process must have in order to access the object. The operational system has access checking software for enabling a selected process access

to a specified object when the identifiers for the process match the list of identifiers in the access control list of the specified object. The server can therefore access all objects accessible to the client while the server is working for the client. The server can restore its original identifier list after completing the services that it performs for the client.

F. The Combination of References as Compared to the Applicant's Claims 1-14

The Applicant respectively traverses the rejections in light of claims 1-14. The references, taken individually or in any combination, do not teach or suggest the novel elements of the Applicant's independent claims 1, 5, 6, and 9. More specifically, the combined references do not teach or suggest the Applicant's claimed limitations directed to each of the regional servers storing profiles of resources associated with the local servers. Further, the combined references do not teach or suggest the Applicant's claimed limitations directed to local and regional servers being linked together for electronically transferring profiles and resources therebetween.

The Bloom reference does not teach or suggest the Applicant's claimed limitation of storing profiles of resources associated with the local servers. While Bloom does teach

distributed multiple servers with a tree structure at page 174, it teaches away from storing profiles of resources associated with the local servers.

Bloom does not teach or suggest that any of the servers contain profiles that contain descriptive information about one of the resources stored in any of the other servers in the tree. Bloom merely discusses a naming convention which allows one server to access another, not a means for locating information on another server as in the present invention.

Further, the naming convention of Bloom is not analogous to the profiles of the present invention. The Bloom naming convention is a linked list of pointers, not a single pointer from the large area (e.g. regional) server (Edu) to the smaller area (e.g. local) server (LCS). Even if Bloom did show a single pointer from the large area server to the small area server, the pointer does not disclose the information stored on the small area server.

Further, Bloom does not teach or suggest the Applicant's claimed limitations directed to electronically transferring profiles and resources between local servers and regional servers. Further still, Bloom does not teach or suggest the Applicant's claimed limitations directed to means for searching all of the profiles in all of the regional servers. Finally,

Bloom does not teach or suggest the claimed limitations directed to accessing a resource from any one of the local servers based on profiles searched in the regional servers.

The East reference disclosure of access checking does not cure any of the deficiencies of the above-discussed deficiencies of Bloom. For example, East does not disclose or suggest the claimed feature of storing profiles of resources in regional servers, or the claimed feature of searching all of the profiles in all of the regional servers. Further, none of the references suggests that the modification to East indicated by the Office Action at page 4 would be desirable, or that such modification would cure the above-discussed deficiencies of Bloom.

The Khoyi reference also fails to cure the deficiencies of Bloom. For example, while it discloses a link mechanism for linking data between objects, it does not recognize the recited features of storing profiles of resources on regional servers, searching such profiles in all the regional servers, and transferring profiles and resources between local and regional servers.

The Applicant asserts that the claimed invention provides advantages over the cited prior art references, and would therefore not be obvious even if the references individually disclosed all the claimed elements. The Applicant's invention

provides a system for storing information in a manner in which retrieval is simplified, requiring only one call to a regional server to determine the resource associated with that server.

III. Conclusion

In conclusion, since independent claims 1-14 of the present application recite features which are not found in the references, the Applicant submits that the claims recite novel physical features which patentably distinguish over any and all references under 35 U.S.C. § 103. As a result, the Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of the present application without further delay.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call the Applicant's undersigned attorney.

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